

Pirate Plaudits



Bill Fix Donates Mountaineering Book Collection

In September, Whitworth inaugurated the William C. Fix Mountaineering Collection with a lecture by legendary mountaineer John Roskelley and a reception and display in honor of the collection's namesake. Bill Fix began climbing in 1953 and has scaled mountains worldwide. He donated his extensive collection of mountaineering books, as well as funds to help curate the collection, to Whitworth's Cowles Memorial Library, and he hopes the books will inspire students to climb at home and abroad. Fix and his family are longtime supporters of Whitworth, and he has served on the board of trustees and the board of The Whitworth Foundation for 40 years.



Proud to Be an American

Professor of Physics Kamesh Sankaran, a native of India, became a U.S. citizen on Nov. 3. Sankaran has lived in the United States for more than 22 years, spending 11 years as a student and the subsequent 11-plus teaching at Whitworth. He applied to become a citizen the first day he was eligible. "I thank God for all the ways that He has blessed me through this nation," he says, "and I will strive to use this new phase of my life to live a life worthy of the calling I have received."

Whitworth Is Tops!

For a whopping 16th year in a row, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Whitworth one of the 10 best of 118 master's-level universities in the 15-state western region of the U.S.; Whitworth also maintained its No. 3 ranking among the best university values in the West. Additionally, *Forbes* once again named Whitworth one of the top 10 private schools in the Pacific Northwest, and for the seventh time in eight years, *Colleges of Distinction* recognized Whitworth as a top school in the country.

A Trio of Champions

This fall, three Whitworth Athletics teams claimed Northwest Conference titles. The volleyball Pirates won the NWC championship with a 19-7 overall record heading into the 2015 NCAA Division III tournament. Men's soccer (16-1-1) clinched its second consecutive NWC title and an automatic berth to the NCAA tournament; the men have now won eight NWC titles in the past 12 seasons. Women's cross country captured the NWC title, took third place at the NCAA DIII West Region Championships, and earned an at-large berth in the NCAA championships. The football team also enjoyed a stellar season: Finishing with a record of 9-1, the football Bucs received an at-large bid to the Div. III playoffs.



Richard III Goes Corporate

For Whitworth Theatre's fall production, Shakespeare's *Richard III*, Director Diana Trotter re-imagined the play as a contemporary drama of corporate greed through one corrupt businessman's quest for power. Performed by a dapper-suited cast of 25 (including Professor of History Dale Soden, as King Edward IV), *Richard III* raised questions that resonate for our world today.



2015 Smithsonian interns and Honors Program Director Doug Sugano (L-R): Thomas Hull, Katie Cunningham, Madison Garner, Sugano, Hannah Norris and Stacey Moo stand before the “The Castle,” the Smithsonian’s iconic building, in Washington, D.C.

Learning in ‘The Nation’s Attic’

Whitworthians make the most of Smithsonian internships

As Whitworth’s honors program picks up steam, students within the program are gaining access to programs at some of the world’s most prestigious scholarly venues. (See Page 19’s article on Whitworth students attending Oxford University’s semester-long Scholarship & Christianity Program, in Oxford, England.) One such program is the Smithsonian Institution’s internship program.

Most academics and students are familiar with the name of the Smithsonian, though they may be a little hazy on the details of what the institution *does*. One description from the Smithsonian’s site says of the institution, “The Smithsonian, established in 1846 ‘for the increase and diffusion of knowledge,’ is a group of museums and research centers administered by the U.S. government. Originally organized as the United States National Museum and termed ‘the nation’s attic’ for its eclectic holdings of 138 million items, the institution’s Washington, D.C., nucleus of 19 museums, nine research centers, and the National Zoological Park – many of them historical or architectural landmarks – is the largest such complex in the world.”

In a nutshell, the institution is focused on “shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world.”

Whitworth has set about placing interns with the Smithsonian program, helping to prepare undergraduate honors students for their post-graduate pursuits. Honors Program Director Doug Sugano says of the decision to work with the Smithsonian, “I’m impressed with three aspects of these internships – first, that our students can bypass the national selection process and we can select our own students for these prestigious internships; second, I could see the care that the Smithsonian supervisors took in matching our students to their respective internship skills and jobs; and, finally, all of the Smithsonian supervisors were passionate about their jobs, caring about their interns, and genuinely helpful people.”

This year, Whitworth sent five students to complete Smithsonian internships: Stacey Moo, ’15, interned at the Freer and Sackler Galleries, the Smithsonian’s two museums of Asian art, and worked for the undersecretary for history, art and culture; Madison Garner, ’16, worked for

The Smithsonian Associates, the fundraising arm of the Smithsonian; Thomas Hull, ’15, interned with the Smithsonian Gardens, which the institution calls its “outdoor museums”; and Katie Cunningham, ’16, and Hannah Norris, ’15, worked for the Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, which offers internships in cultural anthropology, folklore, ethnomusicology, museum studies, arts administration, graphic and web design, marketing and library science.

Cunningham made the most of her Smithsonian adventure. An English major, she embarked upon her Smithsonian internship during her junior year, in Jan Term 2015. Inspired by her interest in Asian-American identity and culture, the center asked Cunningham to create a multimedia storytelling project about Asian-American identity for the Smithsonian’s larger *Our American Journey* project. Cunningham also wrote a related article, “Defining Ourselves: Multiracial Identity for Modern-Day Asian Americans,” which was published on the website of the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.

“This experience showed me how passionate I am about individual stories and personal identity,” Cunningham says. “I spent eight hours a day in the office working on this project, and yet when I went home, I still wanted to research the topic. In the end, I was able to take all of the very different stories and put them together in a coherent, individual and interesting narrative.”

The Smithsonian atmosphere was just as appealing to Cunningham as the content she explored. “It was great to see a workplace that prioritized cultural appreciation, and where people took so much joy from each other and their work,” she says.

“I’m grateful this internship gave me the opportunity to explore that freedom and to realize I can adapt really well to it.”

Web extra: To read Cunningham’s article, visit www.whitworth.edu/whitworthtoday.

A Heart for Students

Mandeville departs after a fruitful quarter-century

After 25 years serving the best interests of Whitworth students and the campus community, Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students Dick Mandeville stepped down at the end of the summer.

Mandeville came to Whitworth in 1990, and helped shape Whitworth's student-life and residence-life programs into some of the best in the country. He was appointed V.P. of student life and dean of students in 2012, and he shepherded his division through a number of changes and improvements during his three years in that position. These include his hiring of dynamic new leaders in several key positions, including a new associate dean for compliance and community standards; a new director of residence life; and a new director for student diversity, equity & inclusion. Perhaps one of his greatest achievements while serving as vice president was developing a new and innovative support infrastructure for student success.

"One of the things I feel very good about is our student leadership program in the residence halls," Mandeville said in September. "I think that it reflects the values of the institution well and it also adds a focus on Whitworth's mission."

Mandeville added that he will miss watching students grow through leadership opportunities and through healthy relationships in our residence halls.

"When I interviewed here," he said, "I met with a small group of students and I remember thinking that if these are the kinds of students this place attracts, this is going to be a great place to be. And it



has been. Our students are remarkable and talented, and I think that we've done a great job of creating a place for them to grow into their best selves. It has been exciting work."

The campus held a going-away party for Mandeville a few days before his departure, and faculty, staff and students from across the campus had the opportunity to thank him and to let him know how fondly he will be remembered.

"Throughout Dick's tenure," says Assistant Director of Alumni & Parent Relations Josh Cleveland, '01, "he mentored hundreds of students, supervised thousands, and influenced many more through his servant leadership and care. As such, it is difficult to measure the influence Dick has had on generations of Whitworth students and alumni. He leaves a legacy of grace and truth, trusting students to make good choices and then kindly and firmly redirecting them when better choices could have been made.

A consummate student-development professional, Dick embodied the spirit of challenging and supporting students while *letting good things run wild* (his words). Student life at Whitworth is what it is because of Dick's leadership, care, compassion and commitment."

Mandeville's successor for the 2015-16 academic year is Interim Vice President for Student Life Rhosetta Rhodes, '99. She, too, appreciated working with Mandeville. "No one can speak or translate student life to the general campus community better than Dick," Rhodes says. "He knows student development, and his practice resulted from that knowledge. He made friends out of students, faculty and staff. He will be missed."

This article features content from Sarah Haman's article in the Oct. 1, 2015, issue of The Whitworthian.



Hashtag: Unity

Whitworth intensifies its enduring commitment to diversity and inclusion

In the wake of an unfortunate pre-academic-year racial incident involving several students, Whitworth President Beck A. Taylor created a new initiative, #whitworthunited, to further address the issue of racism in the Whitworth community and beyond.

#whitworthunited is a broad-based effort to educate, to inform, to encourage dialogue, and to inspire Whitworthians to “seek the unity of Christ through racial reconciliation on our campus and in our

community,” Taylor says. To demonstrate the university’s commitment to these efforts, he has created a significant new pool of resources to support the goals of the program. Taylor has also enlisted top administrators and ASWU President Justin Botejue, '16, to help lead the #whitworthunited campaign.

The initiative has hit the ground running. Whitworth recently welcomed as its Native American Heritage Month guest speaker the Rev. Randy Woodley,

Ph.D. (photo left), Distinguished Professor of Faith & Culture and director of intercultural and indigenous studies at George Fox Seminary, who lectured on “America Before Columbus and Now”; ASWU sponsored a number of cultural events in support of Hispanic Heritage Month; Dena R. Samuels, Ph.D., director of the Matrix Center for the Advancement of Social Equity and Inclusion at the University of Colorado, presented an Inclusive University Classroom lecture, “Minimizing Implicit Bias in Educational Settings”; and Justice Mary Yu lectured on “Breaking the Barriers: Being the First Latina, Asian, LGBT Justice on the Washington State Supreme Court.”

Associate Vice President for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Larry Burnley, one of the administrators chosen by Taylor to lead the #whitworthunited effort, says of the potential of the new initiative, “It can benefit all Whitworthians as we build our individual and collective capacity to engage more effectively the human family across multiple dimensions of human difference. Our commitment and goal are always to better equip our graduates to ‘honor God, follow Christ, and serve humanity.’”



Celebrating 40 years of Study and Service in Central and Latin America

Nearly 100 alumni, faculty and guests returned to campus July 10-12 to celebrate the 40th anniversary – and the ongoing legacy – of the Central and Latin America Study Program. The program, formed in 1975 and sustained for many years by the visionary leadership of Associate Professor of Sociology/Chaplain Emeritus Ron Frase, continues to grow and evolve today, allowing students to travel, study and serve in Central America. In January 2016, a group of current Whitworth students will travel to Central America as the latest ambassadors and beneficiaries of this life-changing program.



The Pit and the Pergola

Campus additions provide warmth, light, beauty for community members

Whitworth's new fire pit, located in front of the HUB, is getting lots of use – and, come spring, the just-assembled pergola in the Westminster Courtyard will provide an enjoyable plant paradise for those making their way to their English classes.

The fire pit was donated by Whitworth Trustee Gary Hopkins and his family. Gerry Gemmill, outgoing vice president for finance & administration, calls it “a gathering place where the students, if they want to have a little heat, can sit outside in a pretty place and talk.” It was completed last spring, and a number of fall events, including Homecoming Weekend, made use of the new venue.

On Nov. 7, artist David Shelton, a friend of Whitworth English Professor Leonard Oakland and of the university, reassembled in Westminster Courtyard the pergola he built for the English department. Shelton, brother of writer/director Ron Shelton (*White Men Can't Jump*, *Bull Durham*), also a friend of the university, built the pergola at his home in California and transported it to Spokane for reassembly. The structure is named The Pam Parker Pergola, for the Whitworth English professor who has provided the energy and much of the funding to make it a reality.

“This pergola will provide a visual backstop, raising the view to the mountains, while at the same time welcoming poets, musicians, and perhaps jugglers onto the stage of the grassy bowl we designed in 2008,” Oakland says. The department welcomes contributions to pay the remaining \$6,000 cost of the pergola, as well as the gravel and vines that will help to make it another Whitworth showpiece. If you'd like to donate, contact Oakland (loakland@whitworth.edu), Parker (pparker@whitworth.edu), or Tad Wisenor, '89 (twisenor@whitworth.edu).

Metheny Magic

Pat Metheny, who recently won Best Guitarist honors in *Downbeat* magazine's 80th readers' poll, joined the acclaimed Whitworth Jazz Ensemble at the university's fall jazz concert. A 20-time Grammy winner, Metheny was working regularly with the best jazz musicians in Kansas City by the time he was 15. He has since enjoyed a long, mega-successful career and has gained a reputation as an innovator and incorporator of new technologies into his music. Jazz Ensemble Director Dan Keberle writes of the concert's guest performer, “Metheny reinvented the traditional jazz-guitar sound for a new generation of players.”





A Century of Service

The Whitworth Auxiliary celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding and a century of supporting Whitworth students with a festive gathering on Oct. 10. Members were honored with a presentation by Whitworth History Professor Dale Soden; a performance by the Whitworth Chamber Singers, led by Director of Choral Studies Marc A. Hafsø; a word from Whitworth President Beck A. Taylor; and a video presentation of reminiscences by several of the most long-standing members of the auxiliary. The highlight of the morning was the inaugural awarding of the Whitworth Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship, to Melanie Williams, '17. The auxiliary has donated approximately \$450,000 to Whitworth during its 100 years of serving the university.

Brooks Shares Insights at President's Leadership Forum

New York Times columnist and best-selling author David Brooks was the featured speaker at Whitworth's fall President's Leadership Forum, appearing before a large audience at the Spokane Convention Center and spending time on campus in a Q&A session with Whitworth President Beck A. Taylor. Taylor, who calls Brooks "one of the preeminent social commentators of our time," invited his guest's perspectives on issues of both national and international import. Brooks, whose *NYT* column appears every Tuesday and Friday, is also a regular commentator on the *PBS NewsHour*, NPR's *All Things Considered*, and NBC's *Meet the Press*. His latest book is *The Road to Character*.



Britworthians

Whitworth honors students take advantage of rigorous Oxford program

Honors students at Whitworth are now being presented with a unique and appealing opportunity: the Scholarship & Christianity Program in Oxford, England. Under the leadership of Professor of English Doug Sugano and Professor of World Languages & Cultures Bendi Benson Schrambach, Whitworth's quickly growing honors program has recently begun to offer the Oxford semester, a particularly enriching experience that combines off-campus study with one of the most stimulating academic venues in the world, at Oxford University. Two students attended SCIO last year, two are enrolled this year, and Whitworth anticipates ongoing – and increasing – interest in this unique program.

Oxford describes the SCIO as a program “designed specifically for students seeking an academically robust program. In tutorials, students meet one-on-one with acclaimed Oxford scholars (often including widely published authors, historians, former international ambassadors, and other celebrated thinkers) to go head-to-head on subjects within the disciplines of history, literature, languages, philosophy, musicology, art, science, and more.”

While the program is open to all majors, a student must have a GPA of at least 3.7 to apply. “Students involved in the Oxford program have reported the rich intellectual challenge of regular meetings with Oxford scholars for whom they write frequent papers and with whom they meet to discuss ideas,” says Associate Provost for Faculty Development Kathleen Storm, who has also been an integral part of bringing the program to Whitworth.



Luke W. Olsen, '16 (above), who attended “Hilary Term” at Oxford this year, explains a bit about how the program unfolded for him:

“The eight-week Oxford term was followed by another six weeks or so of independent research, seminars, and a course on British culture and history and its interaction with a chosen discipline (I chose theology). During regular term I took two tutorials: My primary tutorial (every week) was Christian Moral Reasoning, and my secondary tutorial (every other week) was Philosophical Theology.

“Essentially, you meet regularly, one-on-one, with an Oxford tutor/professor to discuss a previously assigned research question and reading list. Then you have a week or two weeks to read and write an essay in response to this question. At the next meeting you read and defend your position as the professor deconstructs and

challenges your essay. Almost no time is spent in class. Rather, most of my time was spent in libraries reading and writing in preparation for these tutorials. I did, though, attend university lectures and seminars that were relevant to my studies.”

When asked what convinced him to apply for the Oxford program, Olsen says, “I was drawn to participate because I wanted to challenge myself. The Oxford system emphasizes research and autonomy. I think it matured me as a student, as I began to see myself as a thinker who not only consumes scholarship but who contributes to it, as well.”

Storm adds, “Students talk about the energizing experience of focusing on intellectual growth without constant attention to grades and about growing to love learning for its own sake. They’ve described the inspiring experience of life in community where they’ve been stretched and supported academically. Immersion in scholarship at Oxford has changed their lives.”

Olsen mentions another advantage of the Whitworth/Oxford connection. “I was especially thankful for Whitworth’s emphasis on faith and learning, the mind and the heart,” he says. “We see this commitment reflected in the person and teaching of Augustine, for whom learning and thinking about God could never be separated from a deep faith and a ‘burning love.’ Oxford’s motto is dominus illuminatio mea: The Lord is my light. I saw this inscription all over the town. This belief informs and guides our commitment to faith and learning. Not all institutions share this commitment. I was thankful, at Oxford, that I had been trained by Whitworth professors who do.”

If you know a student who might be interested in, and eligible for, the Scholarship & Christianity Program in Oxford, England, please direct him or her to the Whitworth Honors Program website, www.whitworth.edu/honors, or to one of the professors mentioned in this article.

Economics Professor, Entrepreneur, Alumnus Joins Board



Whitworth recently welcomed a new member to the university's board of trustees. David Nelson, '71, is a professor of economics at Western

Washington University. In 1985, he received his Ph.D. from the University of Oregon, and in 2005 he was awarded the Distinguished Teaching Fellow by the W.W.U. College of Business and Economics; in 2009 he was named MBA Professor of the Year. He helped launch the Western Washington University Christian Faculty Forum, the purpose of

which is to support, encourage and equip Christian faculty to fulfill their roles as Christ's followers and university professors. In recognition of his leadership, the faculty ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ presented him with its Erick Nilson Achievement Award.

As founder and president of Finance & Resource Management Consultants, Inc., Nelson works with study groups of business owners to help them improve their businesses. FRMC currently assists more than 40 study groups involving executives from more than 250 companies in the petroleum-marketing, convenience-store, and wholesale industries. These firms, together, sell approximately 10 percent of the fuel sold in the U.S.

"I've known David for nearly 20 years," says Whitworth President Beck A. Taylor.

"Not only is he an accomplished academic leader; he is also a successful business owner and entrepreneur. And as an alum, he knows first-hand how a mind-and-heart education can prepare someone for a life of service. I'm excited about all that he brings to the board."

Nelson and his wife, Lynne, a Christian counselor in Bellingham, met at Whitworth and have been married for more than 40 years. They have four children and four grandchildren, and they have sponsored many children in developing countries. Nelson served on the boards of Childcare Worldwide and Hillcrest Chapel, and he is currently a member of the board of the Washington Council on Economic Education. The Nelsons attend First Presbyterian Church of Bellingham.



Heritage Gallery Welcomes Winning Class of 2016

The Whitworth University Heritage Gallery Hall of Fame inducted Warren Lashua, '59, Serena Fadel Wang, '04, and John Rasmussen, '96 (highlighted above), during Whitworth's Homecoming Weekend. Wang is an eight-time individual Northwest Conference swimming champion and seven-time All-American who took third at nationals in the 400-yard individual medley with a time that still stands as a record in the NWC; Rasmussen, also a premier swimmer, was a six-time All-American and the NAIA national champion in the 200-yard breaststroke; and Lashua represented the Pirates as both a national-caliber shot putter and a football star who set a never-broken conference record by seizing 11 interceptions in 1959.



(L-R) Julie Taylor and President Beck A. Taylor join Provost and Executive Vice President Caroline Simon and Associate Professor of Chemistry Deanna Ojennus at the announcement of the Hugh Johnston gift to the university.

The Generosity of a Quiet Man

Hugh Johnston, Ph.D., a longtime Whitworth chemistry professor, was also an avid archeologist, Egyptologist and stamp collector who spent many years in plastics research before he began his career in academia, at Whitworth, in 1957. He taught chemistry (and married his Whitworth colleague Mary Boppell, Ph.D.) during his first 16 years at the then-college, spending his final 12 years on the staff as director of development services. After his retirement, he volunteered in the archive departments of both Whitworth and the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture. Who knew that this humble, modest man planned to donate a substantial estate to the university where he worked for much of his life?

In October, Whitworth announced that Johnston, who died earlier this year at nearly 95, had left Whitworth a gift of \$2.05 million. Whitworth President Beck A. Taylor announced that with this gift, the university will establish the Hugh W. Johnston Endowed Professorship of Chemistry and will initiate an interdisciplinary research fund. Because of Johnston's generosity, the university will place \$550,000 into this endowed fund, moving Whitworth more than halfway toward its \$1 million goal.

"To receive these gifts from Hugh's estate means a great deal to the university," Taylor says. "That a former faculty member would love this place so much and be so generous with his resources is an encouragement to all of us."

Thank You!



Big changes are under way for the current music building, which will soon become the Cowles Music Center at Whitworth.

Cowles Music Center on Track for 2016 Completion

Thanks to the generosity of numerous families and foundations, construction work on the Cowles Music Center began in earnest over the summer. While fund-raising is still being completed for the new pianos and other equipment needed for the building, the \$13.5 million required for the facility itself has been given or pledged.

Whitworth's music faculty members anticipate the opening of the new facility with enthusiasm. "In addition to our excitement about gaining needed space for our existing program," says Associate Professor of Music Benjamin Brody, '98, "I am excited for the new opportunities that the Cowles Music Center will provide Whitworth to serve the greater Spokane community through performances, master classes, music festivals, and other educational programming."

You can track the progress of this significant capital project by viewing the construction webcam at www.whitworth.edu/125/musicprogram.

By the Numbers How our \$100-million goal adds up:

\$18.6
 million raised
Endowment
 (\$30 million goal)

\$22.6
 million raised
Facilities
 (\$23 million goal)

\$18.1
 million raised
Programs
 (\$20 million goal)

\$12.3
 million raised
Bequests
 (\$27 million goal)

Raised: \$71.6 million

Total: \$100 million



What Works vs. What Lasts: A Conversation with Bob Goff

By Tad Wisenor, '89

On a Sunday afternoon last May, five people gathered for a meal and conversation with Bob Goff, a bestselling author, the founder of Restore International, and Whitworth's 2015 commencement speaker. Goff's *New York Times* best-selling book *Love Does* encourages readers to live a lifestyle that fiercely seeks out ways of showing love. He also pioneers the vision for Restore International, a nonprofit human-rights organization he founded in 2003. When Goff speaks he commands a room, no matter the size, and this group of five was captivated, amused and challenged (as was the Spokane Arena audience at commencement a few hours later). Following are excerpts from that conversation.

On Trusting God

"Just trust that God's so big that He's got this thing. I don't have this big faith but I'm a very trusting guy. And I trust God, and He's got it. He isn't worried about all the stuff we're worried about. We spend so much time coming up with a backup plan that we never get to our purpose. You never just do your purpose, because you're so busy hedging all the bets."

On Making Room in Your Life

"Every Thursday I quit something. I was on a board of directors, and they're changing the whole world. They're great, but I called up and I quit. They asked,

'How come?' And I'm like, 'Because it's Thursday.' You don't need a reason. When you were a kid you didn't need a reason for everything. You didn't have to put spin on it. You just quit. So what I do is try to make a little bit of room in my life, trusting that God will set terrific things and people into it."

On Words of Correction

"Instead of instructing people and correcting them, I literally charge myself \$500 per word of correction. On your smartphone app, you can transfer money to a bank account. If I'm tempted to straighten somebody out, I just say as

much as I can afford. I want it to be important, because 500 bucks is a ticket to Maui. I think some of these things we're saying to one another are costing us so much more in our relationships than we realize."

On Trusting Those Who Have Failed

"For me (in high school), everything was shop. I had one English class. Everything else was shop. My wood-shop teacher, tragically, had only two fingers on his right hand. And so when he was showing us how to use the table saw on the first day of class, he said that when you get close to the blade, you have to use a push stick. I trusted him because he had apparently failed – either once big or several times small. What if we trust people more when they fail, and not less?"

On What Works vs. What Lasts

"I've had all kinds of great ideas that didn't work. I've had a bunch of stupid ideas that did work. So that's not the dashboard of metrics I'm following. Remember pet rocks? Those worked! But then everybody figured out it's a rock in a box for 20 bucks. So while it worked, it didn't last. I've done so many things in my life that have worked, but I've done just a few that will last. So I have to ask, 'Is this going to last, or is it just another thing on the pile that worked?'"

On Where He Goes to Church

"People ask me all the time, 'Where do you go to church?' And I say, 'Our church.' I'm claiming dibs on all of them. Some of them wear robes, and some of them wave their arms, and some of them are quiet, and some of them are loud, and some play the banjo, and some play the harp. That's our church. I'm just claiming all of them. Wouldn't that be an awesome thing to quit on Thursday? All the churches, change your names to 'Ours.' And so when people ask you where you go to church, you'd be like, 'Ours.' And they'd be like, 'You, too?' There'd be something really beautiful about that."

Web extra: To read more of this conversation with Bob Goff, visit www.whitworth.edu/whitworthtoday.

2015 ALUMNI AWARD Winners

Each year, Whitworth alumni nominate classmates to receive the university's alumni awards, and those nominations are reviewed by a committee of staff, faculty and alumni. This year's awards were presented at the Homecoming Reunion Weekend celebration on Oct. 3. The university is pleased to honor the following four recipients of the 2015 Alumni Awards.

ALUMNI MIND & HEART AWARD

Participation in Whitworth's Central America Study and Service Term changed the life of **the Rev. Leslie Vogel**. While in Central America, Vogel, '79, encountered courageous people who were facing life-altering situations. Their discipleship amid great suffering changed the way Vogel interpreted the Bible, and led her to study at San Francisco Theological Seminary and to work with refugees in the Bay Area before serving in El Salvador from 1985-93. In 2013, Vogel was reappointed a mission co-worker for the Presbyterian Mission Agency, this time to Guatemala. Today, she serves with the Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America. Alongside Guatemalan colleagues in this organization's Intercultural Encounters Program, Vogel hosts U.S. groups that seek to engage in mutual service, dialogue and reflection with Central American Christians. Her many Whitworth mentors helped her to see that feeling compassion and working for justice go hand-in-hand, and the search for compassion and justice is an integral ingredient in a life of evangelism and social justice. *Please see AfterWord on page 34 to learn more about Vogel's work.*

ALUMNI SERVICE TO WHITWORTH AWARD

For nearly 20 years, as a member of the Whitworth Auxiliary, **Georgene (Summerson) Patten**, '50, has been helping to plan for a lifetime. Patten has served as vice president and president and on numerous auxiliary committees, and she knows the importance of preparing the way for future Whitworthians. She helped to establish the Whitworth Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship, which honors the auxiliary's 100-year anniversary, from 1915-2015, and she also established a scholarship at Whitworth that honors her late husband, Les, '50, and the institution that brought them together and helped them form values that were the basis for many of the blessings they enjoyed. Patten says, "My hope is that I will always be passionate about Whitworth and its mission of educating minds and hearts."



(L-R) Patten, Vogel, Beck A. Taylor, Maloney

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Since 1994, **Dr. David Maloney**, '77, has served in Seattle on the faculties of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and the University of Washington. Maloney is an expert in leveraging the targeted power of the immune system to design anti-cancer therapies. He was instrumental in creating the first antibody-based cancer drug on the market, which transformed treatment of certain leukemias and lymphomas. Used in treating more than a million people, this drug has improved or saved the lives of countless patients. Maloney has also helped develop a gentler pre-transplant regimen that has enabled many more patients to take advantage of the lifesaving potential of blood-stem-cell transplantation. Reflecting on his Whitworth experience, he notes, "I think it is important to see that you can come out of a small university and still be competitive in the best medical or graduate schools."



RECENT ALUMNI AWARD

Brittany Hilker, '07, moved to Ouanaminthe, Haiti, in 2009 to volunteer at an orphanage run by the nonprofit Danita's Children. Six years later, after what was supposed to be a one-year experience, Hilker and her two adopted daughters call Haiti their home. In 2013 she helped found and direct Reimagine Haiti, where she ran an inpatient malnutrition center with 17 staff members who, alongside community leaders, addressed life-threatening problems in children and their families. In 2015, she returned to Danita's Children to serve as director of its malnutrition center. Hilker says, "At the end of my time at Whitworth, I realized that the Core classes I sometimes dreaded, the talk of worldview, and the Christ-in-culture conversations finally made sense. I would not be where I am today if it weren't for my experience at Whitworth."

Visit www.whitworth.edu/whitworthtoday to learn more about the stories of the 2015 Alumni Award winners.